Measures kept in toddy shops.

62. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to enquire and state whether all the toddy shops keep measures according to Notification No. 37 of the Rules published in the Gazette; whether any other measure is kept in the shops ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—The prescribed measure is kept in all the shops. But when on occasions a large number of people assemble in the shops and the demand is in small quantities measures made of cocoanut shell called ൈമാട [to contain half or three-fourths of a bottle are used.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— Is it the rule that only the prescribed measure is to be kept in all the shops?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—The Rules say that whisky bottles should be kept there. But it is found that whisky bottles are not always used for measuring the toddy, and that is the trouble.

63. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state if 'cocoanut shell fitted with a bamboo piece' known by the name of ' ൈമാട ' is used in some of the licensed toddy shops for measurement;

(2) if instances have come to the notice of the Government when rule 25 of the license with regard to the use of white whisky bottles for measurement has been violated ; if so, what action has been taken in each of these cases during the last 3 years ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(1) Yes.

(2) Five cases in 1104. In 3 instances the licensees were warned and in the rest the licensees were fined Re. 1 each. No case was brought to notice in 1102 and 1103.

Accounts maintained in toddy shops.

64. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to state, with reference to the question No. 269 answered on 19th February 1929, what is the difficulty in getting correct accounts maintained by toddy shop-keepers as in the case of arrack shop-keepers ;

(b) whether it is not possible to limit the number of trees to be tapped by each shop-keeper according to the amount for which the shop or shops are auctioned by him; and if not, why is it not possible ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—The difficulty is that no correct forecast of the yield of toddy from a tree can be made, as it varies with time and place. The quantity shown as receipt can never, therefore, be correctly verified and checked.

(b) For the reason explained above it is not possible.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Did not the Hon'ble Member in charge of Excise realise the promise made in this Council that arrangements would be made to see correct accounts maintainhby toddy shop-keepers as in the case of arrack sopeds?

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Mr. C. V. Antony.—Will the Hon'ble Member point out the promise in the Council Proceedings?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—If it is pointed out, may I know whether it will be followed?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—First of all I must see whether there is such a promise. Then only I can say whether I can act up to it or not.

License for temporary liquor shops.

65. **Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how may licenses for opening temporary liquor shops have been given this year ;

(b) for what occasions and at what places these were granted ;

(c) what is the reason for granting them in spite of the fact that motions had been passed by the Legislative Council that no such licenses should be granted ;

(d) what is the amount realised from granting these shops ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—(a) Thirty-six.

(b)	i	Harvest. Trichur	11
		do Mukundapuram	1
		do Kanayannur	2
	ii.	Cranganur Bharani	10
	iii.	Tirvilluamala Ekadesi	1
	iv.	Malayattur church festivals	2

(c) The special shops are allowed merely to safe-guard Governmentrevenue and to prevent illicit manufacture and illicit import of liquor from foreign countries as the occasions for which they are granted will clearly show. The number of shops granted this year is less than that of last year by 11, and these were granted in most cases after a personal inspection by the Excise Superintendent and after he was satisfied as to their necessity.

(d) Rs. 277—0—0.

Steps taken for absolute prohibition of drink.

66. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.** — Will the Government be pleased to state what effective steps have been taken in the year 1104 to reach the goal of 'Absolute prohibition' in the years to come ?

Mr. C. V. Antony.—Eleven toddy and 7 arrack shops were abolished in the year 1104. The duty on arrack was raised from Rs. 4-11-0 and Rs. 8-7-0 in 1103 to Rs. 5-0-0 and Rs. 8-12-0 respectively in 1104 in the Southern and Northern Taluks. The rate of

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